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PP RUEHROV  
DE RUEHAE #1087 3630823  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 290823Z DEC 06  
FM AMEMBASSY ASMARA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8620  
INFO RUCNIAD/IGAD COLLECTIVE  
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 6039  
RUEHDJ/AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI 2919  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1277  
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 4683  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1456  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0592  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RUEPADJ/CJTF-HOA J2X CAMP LEMONIER DJ  
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 001087

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/29/2016  
TAGS: MNUC KNNP PREL PINR ER IR  
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO MFA ON UNSC 1737

REF: A. SECSTATE 202585  
1B. ASMARA 1051

Classified By: AMB SCOTT H. DELISI FOR REASONS 1.4(B) AND (D)

11. (U) Poloff delivered reftel demarche to MFA Director General for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Andeab Ghebremeskel, on December 28, 2006. Andeab stated that "nuclear issues were not an issue" for Eritrea and that Eritrean-Iranian relations had "little or nothing to do with nuclear issues." Andeab said that as a member state, Eritrea would abide by the UN resolution.

12. (C) Andeab did offer additional insight into Eritrea's recently announced plans to establish diplomatic ties with Iran (ref b). According to Andeab, now that Eritrea and Sudan had normalized relations, reaching out to Sudan's friends, such as Iran, was a natural progression. He explained that Eritrea's interest, as a new and developing country, was primarily economic and as an "oil-rich country, Iran had a lot to offer Eritrea."

DELISI